

The Hurricane Season Florida 2004

— A Personal Experience

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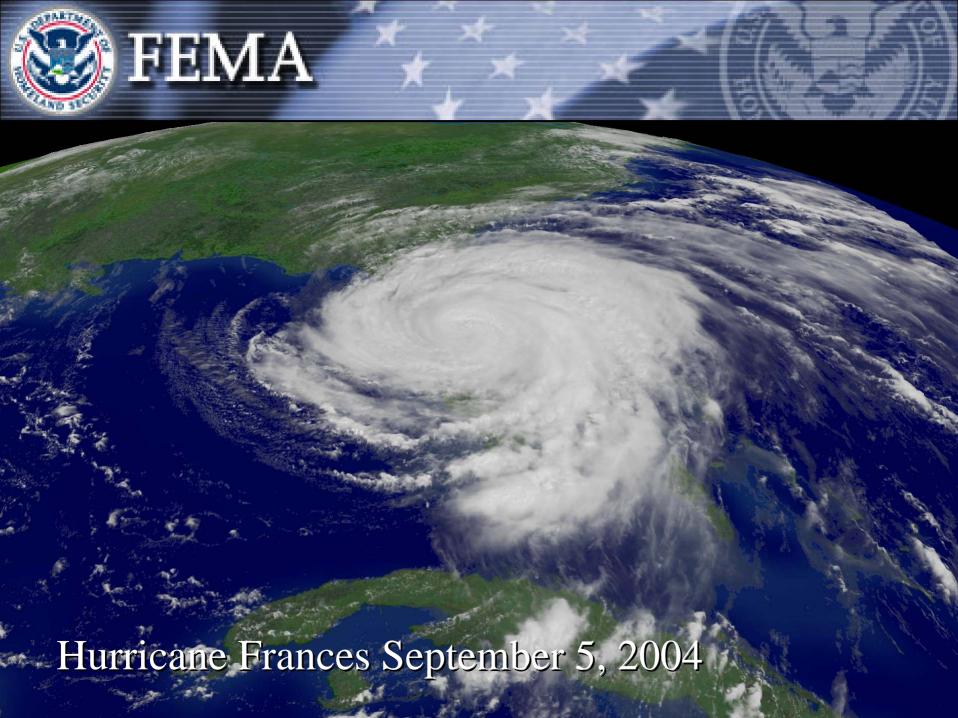






Wreckage from Punta Gorda Executive Airport







- FEMA National Call to Various Citizen Corps Groups to assist with Hurricane Frances
- Arlington County asked its Community Emergency Response Team Members if they could respond
- Five responded, two mobilized Tuesday, September 7, 2004 three a week later





Virginia CERT Members in our Training Group



- All Trainees went to Atlanta, GA for processing and training
- Citizen volunteers were assigned as community relations specialists
- Then the groups were assigned to locations







1st Arlington CERTS Deployed



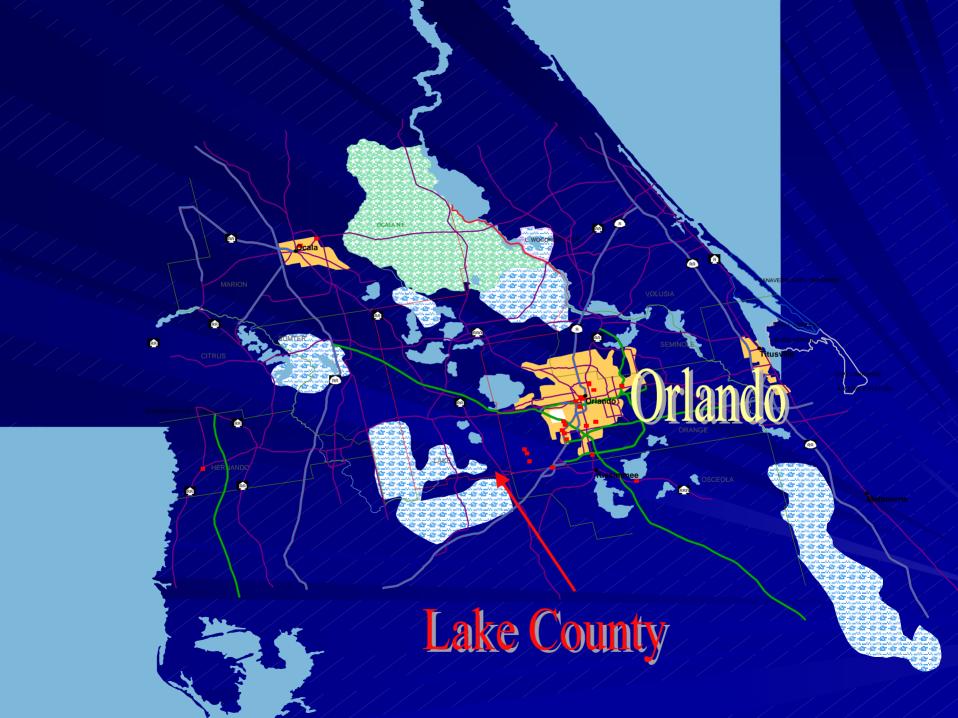


- Assignment:
 - Communicate how to apply for FEMA help to:
 - Individuals
 - Community Groups
 - Churches
 - Retail Outlets
 - Businesses
 - Prefabricated Building Communities
 - Assist those who had filed



Lake County, Florida A Rural Area in Transition







Team Planning





Fliers in Retail Outlets





Individual Residences





Damage from Hurricane Francis in Lake County, Florida

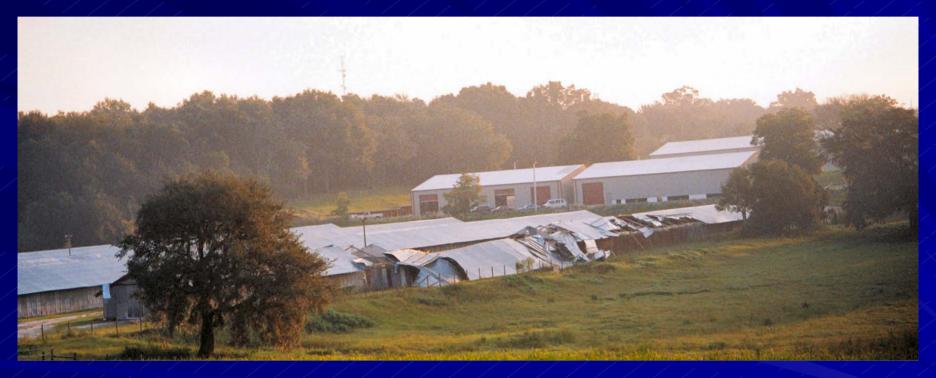


Flooding





Businesses



Assist Businesses to File for SBA Assistance



FEMA Churches Suffered Damage



Assist Churches to file for SBA assistance

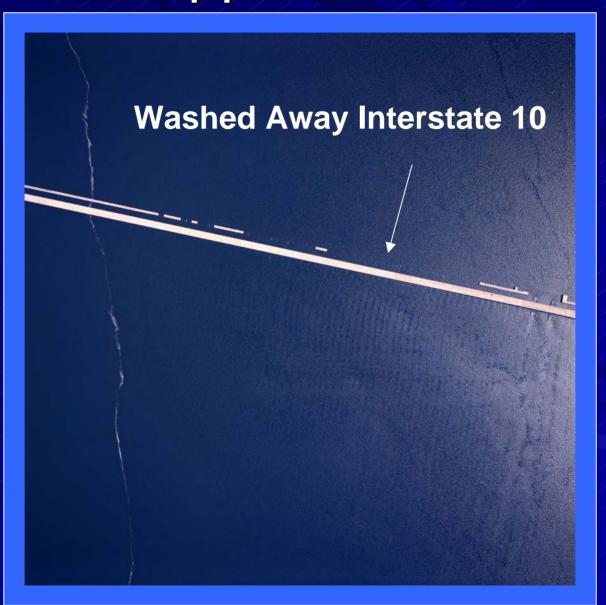


Ivan Hit Florida



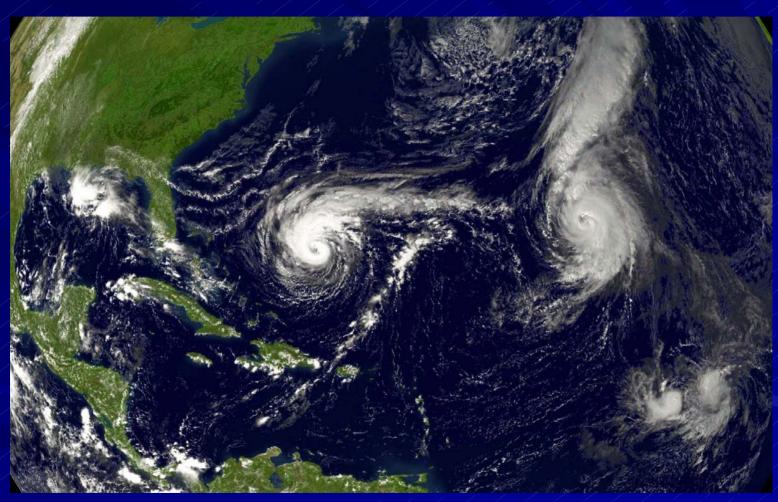


Ivan Topples Interstate 10





Jeanne, Carl and Lisa



Residue the day before Jean





Then there was Jeanne





As of today, one out of every five houses in Florida suffered some damage from at least one of the 2004 hurricanes.



Lessons for Virginia

- Storms can hit at any time and are not always predictable, e.g., Gaston, Charlie
- CERTs can rapidly mobilize to other areas
- Helping others is good training and helps Virginians to plan for our own communities
- Nature can be more devastating than terrorists
- Preplanning outreach during emergencies is important